

## **COUNCIL ON HUMAN SERVICES**

### **MINUTES**

**January 8, 2014**

#### **COUNCIL**

Mark Anderson  
Phyllis Hansell  
Mark Peltan  
Guy Richardson  
Roberta Yoder  
Kim Spading (absent)

#### **EX-OFFICIO LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS**

Representative Joel Fry (absent)  
Representative Lisa Heddens (absent)  
Senator Amanda Ragan (absent)  
Senator Jack Whitver (absent)

#### **STAFF**

Chuck Palmer  
Sandy Knudsen  
Sally Titus  
Debbie Johnson  
Diane Stahle  
Vern Armstrong

Nancy Freudenberg  
Wendy Rickman  
Jennifer Vermeer  
Rick Shults  
Amy McCoy

#### **GUESTS**

Sara Allen, Iowa Hospital Association  
Jodi Tomlonovic, Family Planning Council  
Ashley Engelbrecht, IMS  
Stacey T. Cyphert, U I Health Care  
Erin Davison-Rippey, Planned Parenthood of the Heartland  
Denise Rathman, NASW-IA  
Mikki Stier, BMC  
Alyson Beytien, Mercy Autism Center  
Laura Keehner, Mercy Autism Center  
Bobbi Schell, Mercy Autism Center

Mark Peltan, Chair, called the Council meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, January 8, 2014, in the first floor conference rooms of the Hoover Building.

Council members expressed their sadness at the sudden passing of Council member and civic leader, Arnie Hontkamp.

## **ROLL CALL**

All Council members were present with the exception of Spading. All ex-officio legislative members were absent.

New Council secretary, Sandy Knudsen, was introduced to the Council.

## **RULES**

Nancy Freudenberg, Bureau of Policy Coordination, presented the following rules to Council.

Amendments to Chapter 78, Medicaid. Implements changes to rules for bone marrow and heart transplants.

Freudenberg said no comments were received.

A motion was made by Hansell to approve and seconded by Richardson.  
**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

## **REPORT OF NOTICED ACTION**

N-1 Amendments to Chapter 58, Individual Assistance Grant. Enhances the provision of assistance to an entity contracted with the Department.

N-2 Amendments to Chapters 95 and 99, Child Support Recovery. Updates Chapters 95 and 99 to conform with Iowa Supreme Court guideline changes and to conform to a statutory change regarding administrative paternity adopted in 2012.

A motion was made by Yoder to accept the Report of Noticed Action and seconded by Hansell. **MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

## **2014 LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE & INTERNAL TRACKING PROCESS FOR LEGISLATION DURING SESSION**

Jen Harbison, DHS Policy Advisor, distributed a memo to Council regarding DHS 2014 Legislative Proposals. She reviewed the four DHS proposals:

1. Move the Administration of the Juvenile Detention Home Fund from DHS to the Department of Human Rights, Division of Criminal and Justice Planning
2. Implement Changes to Child Support Court Ordered Payments
3. Amend Iowa Code Section 249A.6 Medicaid Liens to bring code in line with current practice and to mitigate litigation.
4. Amend Iowa Code Section 514I.1 Title XXI Children's Health Insurance Program to align with the Affordable Care Act

Harbison reported that the Department has a very thorough review process for tracking and commenting on proposed legislation. She noted that it will be a busy session and that staff will keep the Council apprised along the way.

### **UPDATE ON HEALTH & WELLNESS ENROLLMENT AND ELIGIBILITY PROCESS**

Wendy Rickman, Administrator, Division of Adult Children and Family Services and Jennifer Vermeer, Medicaid Director, provided an update on the Iowa Health & Wellness enrollment and eligibility process noting that the system has been up and running since October 1, 2014. Rickman spoke to the Council of the new 'presumptive eligibility' process, expansion of the pool of providers, and on-going issues with the Federal 'hub.' Individuals can apply on-line or by phone. She reported that Iowa, for the most part, has been doing a very good job getting applicants enrolled. Vermeer distributed a handout of an Iowa map entitled "Iowa Wellness Plan Managed Care As of November 20, 2013" which indicates counties with Iowa Wellness Plan Managed Care, counties with Iowa Wellness Plan Managed care or HMO and those counties that are fee-for-service. Vermeer noted that the Department has a lot of work to do on design and implementation of the new program.

### **PROGRAM OF ALL-INCLUSIVE CARE FOR THE ELDERLY (PACE)**

Jennifer Vermeer, Medicaid Director, and Debbie Johnson, Bureau Chief, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise, spoke to the Council regarding the PACE program. PACE is a CMS approved 'all-inclusive' in-home care program for the elderly and Iowa currently has only two providers that offer this service, Siouxland Pace in Sioux City and Immanuel Pathways in Council Bluffs. There are 98 PACE programs operating in 38 states. CMS approved clients are served at a capped rate per member, per month.

### **GENERAL DISCUSSION – MEETING RULES & CLOSED SESSIONS**

Diane Stahle, Attorney General's Office, reviewed with the Council meeting rules and rules associated with closed sessions. She noted that anytime a council discusses policy issues, with a quorum present, it formally constitutes a meeting. In order to go into a closed session, the Council would have to adhere to the

reasons that are outlined in Code, such as discussion of personnel matters, pending lawsuits and anything by law that is confidential. Stahle stated she would make the Code citations available to the Council. She also noted that helpful information called "Sunshine Advisories" can be found on the Attorney General's website.

## **AUTISM ACTIVITIES & AUTISM PROJECT IN DUBUQUE**

Alyson Beytien, Laura Keehner, and Bobbie Schell from the Mercy Autism Center in Dubuque addressed the Council. Utilizing a Power Point presentation the following items were discussed:

- core characteristics of autism
- statistics from the Center for Disease Control (1 in 88 children will have autism)
- location of diagnosis sites in Iowa (University of Iowa, Blank Children's Hospital & Mercy Autism Center)
- importance of a team approach to diagnosis
- treatment options
- Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)
- successes and challenges regarding the program in Dubuque
- the importance of early intervention to lifelong improvement

A handout "2014 Mercy Autism Training Series: the Tried and True and What's New" was distributed which outlined a four-month training series for professionals, parents, teachers and caregivers.

Rick Shults, Division Administrator, Division of Mental Health and Disability Services, reported on the support for autism services through Magellan/Medicaid Services and the state health insurance plans. He also provided an update regarding the administration of the Autism Support Program created by the legislature in 2013. The program is to provide funding for Applied Behavior Analysis services for children that meet certain requirements.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Richardson to approve the December 11, 2013 minutes and seconded by Anderson. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

## **COUNCIL MEMBERS' UPDATE**

Hansell requested that handouts from presenters be made available prior to Council meetings when possible.

Anderson reported that he will be meeting with staff from the Division of Adult, Children and Family services to learn more about TANF and FIP programs

Peltan reported that he will be unable to attend the Council meeting in March.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Palmer noted that it was good to have the updates regarding the autism program in Dubuque and the PACE program as it is indicative of positive collaborations between communities and government.

Palmer reported that the Governor's budget proposal goes to print today. A shorter legislative session is anticipated with emphasis on taxes, pensions, education, jobs/training and economic development. There will also be a lot of interest in how DHS rolls out health care, how it is working, and if anyone is falling through the cracks. DHS also anticipates continued dialog regarding mental health regions and funding during this legislative session.

Palmer reported that two youths (girls) remain at the Iowa Juvenile Home in Toledo and he anticipates that they will be placed soon. He noted that Four Oaks in Cedar Rapids has accepted many of these youths and may be a place the Council would like to visit at a future meeting.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Council on Human Services will be Wednesday, February 12, 2014.

A motion was made by Anderson to adjourn and seconded by Richardson.  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Council adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Submitted by,



Sandy Knudsen  
Recording Secretary

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